

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 034720
ORIGIN DHA-02

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NEA - MR. SOBER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, IR

SUBJECT: EMBASSY'S HUMAN RIGHTS VISITORS

REF: TEHRAN 1477

1. DEPARTMENT HAS HURRIEDLY ASSEMBLED INFORMATION ON ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED BY MR. FORER, MS. HORMACHEA AND MR. RUMPF. THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR IRANIAN HUMAN RIGHTS IS A NEW ORGANIZATION WHICH WAS FORMED IN RECENT WEEKS BY FORER AFTER HE REPORTEDLY BECAME SENSITIZED TO PROBLEMS (DISCRIMINATION, HOUSING, JOBS, ETC.) OF IRANIAN STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS. HIS CONCERN FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE STUDENTS WHILE IN THE U.S. APPARENTLY BROADENED TO AN INTEREST IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF STUDENTS AND OTHER IRANIANS BACK HOME. FORER HAS REPORTEDLY VISITED OTHER AMERICAN SCHOOLS IN AN EFFORT TO ORGANIZE CHAPTERS OF THE COMMITTEE AROUND THE COUNTRY. HE PRESUMABLY BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH MS. HORMACHEA DURING

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PAGE 02 STATE 034720

A VISIT TO HOUSTON, WHICH, AS THE EMBASSY IS AWARE, WAS THE SCENE OF RECENT DISTURBANCES INVOLVING IRANIAN STUDENTS.

2. CLERGY AND LAITY CONCERNED, AN ECUMENICAL SOCIAL ACTION ORGANIZATION, WAS ACTIVE IN THE ANTI-VIETNAM WAR

MOVEMENT.

3. MR. ROGER RUMPF OF CLC, ONE OF COSIGNERS OF TELEGRAM CONCERNING SAFETY OF HORMACHEA AND FORER IN IRAN, MADE CALLS TO THE DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 7. IN ONE DISCUSSION HE RAISED TWO MATTERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN, THE ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF PERSONS ACCUSED OF TAKING PART IN A DECEMBER 1976 SHOOTOUT IN TEHRAN, AND THE CASE OF "TEHRAN LAWYER" EZZADDIN MAJD, WHO WAS SAID TO BE SEEKING POLITICAL ASYLUM IN THE U.S. DEPTOFF AGREED TO UNDERTAKE INQUIRIES BUT POINTED OUT TO RUMPF THAT WE HAVE HAD DIFFICULTY OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM IRAN ON PERSONS WITH NO DEMONSTRABLE AMERICAN TIES. RUMPF MADE NO MENTION OF ANY FORTHCOMING VISITS TO IRAN BY MEMBERS OF HIS ORGANIZATION.

4. DEPARTMENT ASSUMES EMBASSY WILL RECEIVE THIS GROUP JUST AS IT WOULD ANY OTHER AMERICAN VISITORS, PROVIDING INFORMATION REQUESTED (WITHIN THE LIMITS OF SECURITY), AND POINTING OUT ANY IRANIAN SENSITIVITIES OF WHICH THEY SHOULD BE AWARE. EMBASSY MAY AT ITS DISCRETION ALSO SUGGEST NAMES OF LOCAL INDIVIDUALS WHOM THEY COULD CONTACT FOR APPOINTMENTS (E.G., IRANIAN PARLIAMENTARY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OR MEMBERS OF IRANIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION), AND IF REQUESTED, COULD PASS ALONG REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS TO THESE OFFICIALS, WHILE POINTING OUT THE PRIVATE AND UNOFFICIAL NATURE OF THE VISIT.

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PAGE 03 STATE 034720

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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